THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The Government have initiated various measures to reduce export cost of agricultural products to make them more competitive in the international market. These, *inter alia*, include setting up of agri export zones to provide enhanced international market access and improved infrastructural facilities, better flow of credit, assistance for transport, handling and processing on export of selected agricultural commodities as also removal of export restrictions like requirement for registration, packaging, etc.

As per export statistics available from DGCI&S, Calcutta, agricultural exports (excluding marine products, tea, coffee, cotton and castor oil) were at Rs. 18,667 crores during the year 2001-02 (April-March) and at Rs. 16,773 crores during the eyar 2000-01, thereby showing an increase of Rs. 1894 crore.

Appointment of Partners by IBP petrol pumps in Delhi

†*134. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dealers who got permissions for appointing partners at various petrol pumps in Delhi from IBP Company between 1st January and 30th June, 2002;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said company has flouted rules while granting permission to appoint these partners;

(c) if so, whether Government would take action against guilty persons after conducting an Inquiry into this whole episode and cancel the partnerships deals; and

(d) the number of persons who had requested to cancel such partnership during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) IBP Co. Limited gave approval in principle for reconstitution in respect of one retail outlet only between 1st January, 2002 and 30th June, 2002.

(b) No, sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The partnership proposal for which in principle approval was granted, did not materialise on account of change of mind of the proposed partner.

Memorial for Vignaneshwara

*135. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorial for Vignaneshwara has been contemplated in Marthur village near Gulbarga in Karnataka;

(b) if so, what is its nature; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider for the construction of a Memorial in honour of great author of Mitakshara?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A proposal for setting up a Memorial for Vignaneshwara has been taken up by Vignaneshwara Sowhardha Sahkari Trust with the State Government of Karnataka. The Government of Karnataka have granted six acres of land to the Trust in Martur village of Chittapur Taluk in Gulburga District for establishing this Memorial. No proposal has so far been received in the Department of Culture for providing financial assistance for this Memorial.

Entry of foreign agencies in education and vocational training under GATT

*136. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the elements of the General Agreement on Trade and Services concerning Education at Primary level, Secondary level, Tertiary level and Vocational Training;

(b) whether Government have signed any protocol approving the entry of foreign agencies in these sectors;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and